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Project Fact Sheet

Adopt-A-Stream: Improvement and Expansion Project

The Clinton River Watershed Council (CRWC) was awarded funding in the amount of \$1995.00 to improve and expand the Adopt-A-Stream Volunteer River Monitoring Program with specific goals to increase the amount of monitored sites in the North Branch subwatershed. This grant was awarded by the Michigan Clean Water Corps (MiCorps) under the Volunteer Stream Monitoring Program.

Project Duration:

August 1, 2009 – December 1, 2010.

Project Location:

The Clinton River Watershed with special emphasis in the North Branch subwatershed.

Project Partners:

Partners for the Adopt-A-Stream program include: Michigan Clean Water Corps, Macomb Community College, Oakland University and Macomb County Health Department. Various communities throughout the watershed help provide: volunteers, media and publicity assistance, site locales and/or room space for training sessions and workshops.

Project Summary:

The North Branch of the Clinton River Watershed historically has not received much attention from CRWC's Adopt-a-Stream program due to limited funding and volunteers. As a result of the grant, additional data is being collected from the area and will allow for a more detailed assessment of the overall condition of the watershed. Grant funds will also help staff efforts in volunteer recruitment for the new sites. The data collected from the new sites adds to our current efforts of developing and maintaining a long term assessment of stream health throughout the watershed. Additionally CRWC was able to purchase two new stereo microscopes to aid with identifying macroinvertebrates to a lower taxonomic level.

Goals of the project:

1. Expand the program by adding 3 new locations in the North Branch subwatershed which is currently underrepresented in the monitoring program.
2. Improve the quality of data by identifying macroinvertebrates to the family level.



Project Accomplishments:

- The Clinton River Watershed Council and volunteers monitored 3 new sites in the North Branch subwatershed. In addition, seven more sites have been identified for future monitoring once resources and funding become available.
- Citizen participation has increased throughout the grant period with interest towards the North Branch.
- 2 stereo microscopes were purchased to help identify macroinvertebrates to a lower taxonomic level.
- Accurate and reliable data continues to be collected, and is applied to trend graphs to track any changes in stream conditions. Data is electronically stored in CRWC database as well as submitted to the MiCorps database for statewide usage.

General Costs:

The \$1995.00 in grant funds was used to purchase the necessary equipment to expand monitoring efforts into the North Branch subwatershed (i.e. waders, nets, macroinvertebrate identification keys, etc). Funds were also applied to the purchase of 2 high quality stereo microscopes.

The Clinton River Watershed Council provided a local match of \$3,277.32 (\$86.14 for supplies, and \$3,191.18 in staff time) through CRWC's Stormwater Education contract funds.



Volunteers sorting through collection bins for macroinvertebrates.



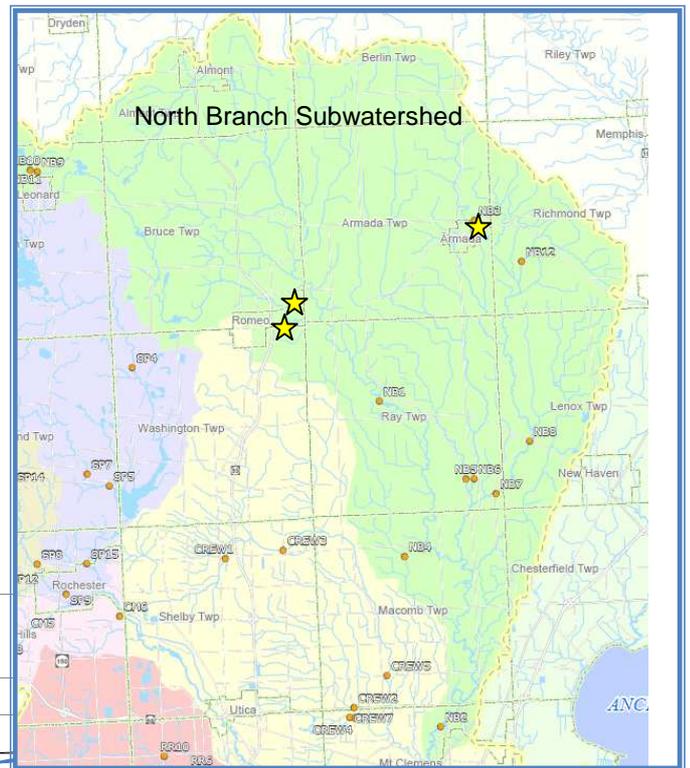
Dedicated volunteers collecting macroinvertebrates

Results Summary:

Reliable and measurable data continues to be collected throughout the entire watershed, and the amount of data collected from the North Branch subwatershed increased.

During each monitoring season, stream quality scores were calculated based on macroinvertebrate collection results in compliance with the MiCorps rank system.

Data was then submitted to the shared MiCorps database and entered into CRWC's database as well. The collected data will serve as a baseline for other agencies or organizations who wish to further investigate any specific area within the watershed.



★ Newly monitored sites in the North Branch subwatershed. Map courtesy of Oakland County

